

**Perinatal Period - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)**  
Summary of Methods and Data for Estimate of Costs of Illness

1. Estimated Total Economic Cost	Not available
Estimated Direct Cost (mortality)	Not available
Estimated Indirect Cost	\$951 million
Reference Year	1995
IC Providing the Estimate	NHLBI
Direct Costs Include: Other related nonhealth costs	No
Indirect Costs Include:	
Mortality costs	Yes
Morbidity costs: Lost workdays of the patient	No
Morbidity costs: Reduced productivity of the patient	No
Lost earnings of unpaid care givers	No
Other related nonhealth costs	No
Interest Rate Used to Discount Out-Year Costs	6 %
2. Category code(s) from the International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification,(ICD-9-CM) for all diseases whose costs are included in this estimate:	
	<u>798.0(2).</u>
3. Estimate Includes Costs:	
Of related conditions beyond primary, strictly coded ICD-9-CM category	No
Attributable to the subject disease as a secondary diagnosis	No
Of conditions for which the subject disease is an underlying cause	No
4. Population Base for Cost Estimate (Total U.S. pop or other)	Total U.S. pop.
5. Annual (prevalence model) or Lifetime (incidence model) Cost:	Annual
6. Perspective of Cost Estimate (Total society, Federal budget, or Other)	Total Society
7. Approach to Estimation of Indirect Costs	Human Capital

8. Source of Cost Estimate:

Unpublished. Contact Mr. Thomas Thom, NHLBI, 301-435-0710.

9. Other Indicators of Burden of Disease:

Since 1980, SIDS has been the 2nd leading cause of infant mortality. However, in 1994, SIDS dropped from the second to the third leading cause of infant mortality. The provisional incidence rate for SIDS in 1995 is 84.2 per 100,000 live births; an 8.3% decrease in one year. (CDC, MMWR, Oct 11, 1996, Vol. 45(40): 862.

10. Commentary:

Mr. Thomas Thom from NHLBI recently updated the cost of SIDS to reflect, \$951 million in indirect costs of mortality. This figure is based on calculations using the: 1)1995, CDC/MVSR reported provisional deaths for SIDS approximated at 2,033 and 1,246 deaths in male and female infants respectively; 2)1992, Rice and colleagues estimate of lost wages for deaths at age 1,

\$266,965 for males and \$222,965 for females; and 3) most recent Bureau of Census estimate of a 5% increase in mean earnings of year-around, full-time workers ages 14 and over, from 1992 to 1993. Multiplying the 1995 incidence of SIDS and the inflated economic values for male and female infants sums up to \$1 billion in indirect costs associated with SIDS mortality for 1995. e.g.  $\$266,965 \times 1.16 \times 2,033 = \$662$  million for male infants,  $\$222,167 \times 1.16 \times 1,246 = \$338$  million for female infants.

Apparently, the decline in the incidence of SIDS deaths is rapid enough to off set increases in inflation of lifetime earnings so that indirect mortality costs declined from \$1.3 billion to \$951 million between 1991 and 1996.